



Press Release

Lake County Sheriff's Office
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Daniel A. Dunlap
Sheriff

Press Release

April 15, 2011

Theft / Shoplifting Arrest of Philip A. Crouse

On 04-12-2011 at 1825 hrs., the Lake County Sheriff's Office responded to CVS Pharmacy located at 1506 Mentor Ave. in Painesville Twp. in reference to a theft / shoplifting complaint in progress. It was reported that an adult white male, wearing a gray sweatshirt had ran out of the store with a bag of merchandise without paying for it and that the store manager ran after the suspect, west on Mentor Ave. Several Sheriff's units responded to the area and set up a perimeter.

Initial investigation at the scene revealed a maroon Buick vehicle parked behind Blockbuster Video next door to CVS. This vehicle was parked in a crooked position, unlocked, with the keys in the ignition. The vehicle returned to a Philip A. Crouse, a 47 year old white male from Painesville Twp. It was suspected that this vehicle may belong to the suspect. The store manager advised that he chased the suspect west to a trail between Melrose Dr. and Clairmont Dr. where the manager lost sight of the suspect. The manager stated he observed the suspect again during which time the suspect was taking off his sweatshirt and was not in possession of the bag of merchandise.

Deputies set up a perimeter from US 20 to W. Jackson St. Marked units held the perimeter while deputies checked on foot during which the suspects grey sweatshirt was located behind a yard on Melrose. Deputies continued checking the area and at 1943 hours a resident on Waldorf reported seeing a suspicious male in wet clothing walking through yards. Deputies closed in on the area and observed the suspect, after which time a foot pursuit ensued. Deputies chased the suspect north over W. Jackson St. and into an area of dense woods and brush north of the railroad tracks. The male suspect was located and taken into custody at 1959 hrs. approx. 1 1/2 hours after the initial call. The suspect was identified as Philip Crouse, the owner of the vehicle parked behind Blockbuster. Crouse admitted to the theft of merchandise from the store and helped deputies recover an electric shaver and two electric hair trimmers valued at \$106.00 which he stole from CVS.

Crouse was suspected of other prior thefts from this CVS store and also a Walgreens in Painesville City. Crouse was booked in at the Lake County Jail and charged with Theft.

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